

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 DHA-02 ORM-02 IO-13 /086 W
-----140725Z 020159 /20

R 111452Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8783
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 0372

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IS, JO, XF

SUBJECT: WEST BANK REPRESENTATION AT PNC

REF: AMMAN 1379

1. BASED ON RECENT SOUNDING WITH WEST BANK MAYORS AND
OTHER LEADERS, OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT NO WEST BANK
RESIDENT WILL ATTEND CAIRO MEETING. ANY WEST BANKERS
WHO DO ATTEND WILL EITHER BE RESIDENTS
OF EAST BANK OR RECENT EXPELLEES. WEST BANKERS
CONTINUE TO ASSERT THAT PLO, AND ONLY PLO,
REPRESENT THEIR ASPIRATIONS.

2. WEST BANKERS STATE THAT NO ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE
TO SEND DELEGATES TO PNC IN CAIRO BECAUSE:

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A. GOI HAS FORBIDDEN ATTENDANCE AND HAS MADE IT
CLEAR THAT, IF IN SPITE OF PROHIBITION ANY
WEST BANK RESIDENTS SUCCEED IN GETTING TO CAIRO,
SUCH PERSON WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO RETURN TO
WEST BANK; AND B. EVEN IF GOI WERE TO CHANGE
ITS STAND, DELEGATES FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES
WOULD BE PLACED IN AWKWARD POSITION, SINCE THEY

WOUL BE PRESENT ON ISRAELI (AND ALSO HKJ)
SUFFERANCE.

3. IN MEETING WITH OFFICER FROM THE CANADIAN
EMBASSY MARCH 7, NABLUS' MAYOR SHAKA' VOICED STRONG
OPPOSITION TO ANY CHANGE IN PALESTINIAN NATIONAL
COVENANT, SO LONG AS ISRAELI OCCUPATION CONTINUED.
SHAKA'S STATEMENT AS WELL AS RECENT HARLINE
STATEMENTS OF PLO "FORMIN" QADDUMI HAVE BEEN WELL
RECEIVED BY MORE EMOTIONAL ELEMENTS IN THE WEST BANK
POPULATION WHO RESENT THE PRESSURE BEING EXERTED BY
THE ARAB GOVERNMENTS ON THE PLO TO MODERATE ITS
POLICIES AND WHO FEEL THE PALESTINIANS-AS THE INJURED
PARTY-SHOULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO MAKE UNILATERAL
CONCESSION.

4. PRIVATELY, HOWEVER, WEST BANK LEADERS AS DIVERSE
AS PRO-PLO NABLUS COUNCILMAN ABU GHIFZRLN HEBRON'S
MAYOR QAWASMI, TULKARM'S MAYOR HANNUN, AND NABLUS
INDUSTRIALIST HIKMAT AL MASRI SAY THAT THE PLO SHOULD
CONCEDE THE EXISTENCE OF ISRAEL AND ACCEPT A
WEST BANK/GAZA STATE LINKED WITH JORDAN. THIS
MESSAGE, WE ARE TOLD, HAS BEEN PASSED TO THE PLO.

5. OCCASIONAL GRUMBLING AGAINST CURRENT PLO LEADERSHIP OCCURS,
CONTINUES, BUT SUPPORT FOR THE ORGANIZATION REMAINS
SOLID.

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